

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

& WESTERN FRUIT-GROWER.

Vol. 3.

AURELIA, IOWA, DECEMBER, 1897.

No. 10

GOLDEN WYANDOTTES

McKeen Strain. Exclusively.

50 Pullets and Cockerels

For sale. No culls. Write your wants before they are scored.

ALBERT MITZLAFF, Abbottsford, Wis.

For 33 Years

I have bred the White Faced Black Spanish, and have made as close a study of the breed as anyone in America. Cockerels for sale. Circular and my photograph free if you mention The Messenger.

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Barred Plymouth Rocks.

I have Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels scoring 92 points, pullets and hens scoring from 88½ to 91 points. Stock for sale in the fall at reasonable figures. Let me quote you prices.

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EXCLUSIVELY.

No more stock for sale this fall. Eggs from choice stock in the spring.

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Silver, White and Golden. White Guineas, Holland Turkeys and Pekin Ducks. Scored stock.

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Barred Plymouth Rocks,
G. A. C. CLARKE.

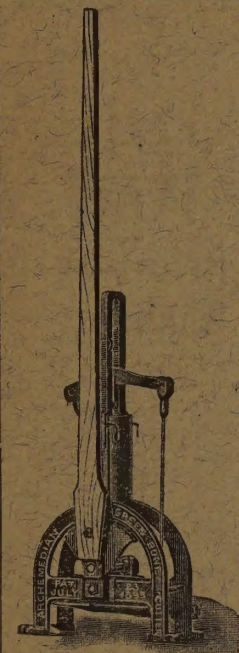
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A few choice cockerels and pullets for sale after October 1st at hard-time prices.

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15 White Rock hens scored and unscored

1 " cock

10 Barred " hens scoring 90 to 93½.

All must go as the youngsters want their quarters. And you had ought to see them, BETTER THAN EVER.

Light BRAHMAS, B. Ply. Rocks,

P. Cochins, R. C. B. Leghorns, and B. Minorcas. All first-class stock. I have for years been obtaining stock and eggs from such breeders as I. K. Felch, C. C. Shoemaker, and Shellabarger, and have selected the very best for breeding. I have some fine young stock for sale. Let me know what you want.

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SEND TO JOE FARMER, Flushing, Ohio.

For circular of choice Barred Plymouth Rocks and eggs. A fine lot of cockerels and pullets to sell and eggs from ten choice yards. Mention Messenger when you write.

Golden Wyandottes Golden Seabright Bantams.

Get my prices on breeding and exhibition stock before buying elsewhere.

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BARRED PLY. ROCKS.

From high scoring stock. Cockerels \$1 to \$3; pullets \$1 to \$2. They will produce winners and layers.

MARTIN RICKARD, Grinnell, Iowa.

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

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Go to your family physician to have your eyes operated upon?

No, Indeed,

You go to a specialist: one who by special training has fitted himself for that kind of work

We are Specialists

By a particular line of study and training: we have acquired special fitness for illustrating and designing poultry printing. Allow us to demonstrate this fact to you. Send for samples and catalogue.

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Stock Printer Wymore, Neb.

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Stock is farm raised and healthy, and satisfaction is assured in every sale. Write for description and prices. Box 82.



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All Machines Warranted.
PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATOR CO., Homer City, Pa.

White Plymouth Rocks.

Young stock for sale bred from birds scoring 93 points and over. You will find my prices very reasonable. Let me know what you want. **ALFRED ANDRAE, Aurelia, Iowa**

The New York World

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18 PAGES A WEEK,

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A paper as useful to you as a great \$6 daily for only one dollar a year, and The Poultry Messenger thrown in. Better than ever. Accurate and fair to everybody. All the News of All the World All the Time. Against trusts and all monopolies. Brilliant Illustrations. Stories by great authors in every number. Splendid reading for women and other special departments of unusual interest. It stands first among "weekly" papers in size, frequency of publication and freshness, variety and reliability of contents. It is practically a daily at the low price of a weekly; and its vast list of subscribers, extending to every state and territory of the Union and foreign countries, will vouch for the accuracy and fairness of its news columns. We offer this unequalled newspaper and The Poultry Messenger together one year for only one dollar. Address

THE POULTRY MESSENGER, Aurelia, Iowa.



BARRED P. ROCKS.

"Zebra," "Royal Blue" and "Ringlet" strains. A grand lot of chicks from either of the above strains for sale.

My Famous Strain of Brown Leghorns

are still in the lead. Write for prices; they are reasonable. A score card with each bird, if desired.

O. P. GREER, Bourbon, Indiana.

The Poultry Messenger.

And Western Fruit Grower.

Vol. 3.

AURELIA, IOWA, DECEMBER, 1897.

No. 10

Query Department.

In this department questions pertaining to chickens and small fruits will be answered by O. P. GREER, Bourbon, Indiana.

From a setting of eggs bought last year I raised only five Buff Plymouth Rocks, three pullets and two cockerels. Not a bird is pure buff. They have white and black feathers in plumage, and I should like to know if such birds are fit to breed.—B. P. R.

Mr. B. P. R. does not state just how much black and white are in plumage, and I will have to guess at an answer. Black feathers in the tails and wings of Buff Plymouth Rocks are very common. In fact very few people have seen a Buff Plymouth Rock that was buff all over. You must not expect birds of that kind from any eggs which you may buy. White is far more objectionable than black, and if your birds are very badly mixed with white and black they are certainly not very good Buff Plymouth Rocks.

I have bred the Black Minorcas for four years, am well pleased with them as layers, but they freeze their combs and wattles so badly in the winter that I have decided to make a change. For a farmer's fowl which would you recommend as the best, the Langshan, Light Brahma or White Wyandotte?

While all of these breeds are well suited to the farmer's needs, my personal preference would be for the White Wyandotte.

My Brown Leghorns have white at the base of the tail and white in the under color of hackle. I have tried for three years to breed this out and it is getting worse. My stock is from a breeder who carries quite a large advertisement in the journals. Is this white in all Brown Leghorn males, or am I breeding scrubs?—B. L.

The under color at the base of the tail should not be white, but a dark slate color, the darker the better. An occasional Brown Leghorn male even from the best stock will show white at the base of tail and hackle. I think you had better improve your stock by

buying from some breeder with not quite such a large ad. and and better stock.

I have a Light Brahma cock with considerable white in tail. Could I use such a bird in a breeding pen if mated to rather dark females?—L. B.

I would not advise you to use in your breeding pen a Light Brahma cock showing much white in tail. It will pay you to get a better bird, as the white in tail is a serious defect.

Will you tell me the quickest and best way to destroy the fertility of eggs, so that they cannot be used for hatching purposes

I have never tried it, but others say dip the eggs in boiling water for a few seconds, but do not permit them to remain there long or you will cook them. Others say if a hole is punched in the egg with a fine needle it will do the business.

Will Brown Leghorns lay more eggs in winter than Brahmas or Plymouth Rocks? Will a house 14x30 feet be room enough for 50 fowls to winter in and lay well? Will it pay to buy an incubator and brooder when you do not keep more than 50 fowls?—M.

Brown Leghorns are said to be the queen of layers, but I have some doubt about them laying more pounds of eggs during the winter months than the Plymouth Rocks or the Light Brahmas. If you take good care of your fowls a house 14x30 feet will accommodate 50 nicely. In regard to the incubator and brooder there are many things to take into consideration, and I could not answer satisfactorily without more light on the subject.

Round Gravel is Poor Grit.

Small, rounded gravel from the creek is not what is meant when poultry keepers are admonished to keep their flocks well supplied with grit. The fowls need some hard substance armed with a sharp cutting edge. The creek gravel possesses no cutting edge unless it is crush-

ed, and even then being mostly composed of sandstone its grinding surfaces are soon worn away, owing to the softness of the material. If one who has placed his faith in the gravel will place before his flocks some of the prepared grit, or even crushed table ware, he will immediately be furnished with the proof that the gravel does not "fill the bill." The hens will seize upon the latter with the greatest avidity, thus showing that the gravel, which has been constantly before them, has not met the demands for something of this nature. The prepared grit is very cheap. Everyone can afford it, and no one who undertakes to keep fowls at a profit should think of trying to get along without it.

If one is going to buy eggs for setting the coming spring he should decide early in the season of whom he will obtain them, and place his order some weeks in advance of the time he wants the eggs delivered. The producer of the eggs will always take excellent care of a buyer of that kind, and will give him the best that the shop affords. Those who delay their orders until the busiest hour of the season will have to take what they get, and while they will generally get the worth of their money, it is not in reason to suppose that at such a rushing time these orders can be given the same careful attention as those for which the seller has had weeks to prepare. Make it easy for the seller to do the very best for you that he possibly can.

Two for the Price of One.

We will furnish The Messenger and either of the following papers for 50 cts The Reliable Poultry Journal. The Poultry Tribune. (Freeport, Ill.) The Poultry Herald. The Michigan Poultry Breeder. American Poultry Journal. Inter-State Poultryman. The Poultry-Keeper.

The Best Poultry House.

Editor MESSENGER:—

Everyone has his or her own ideas on this subject. Below I give a description of one I recently fixed over, and which, cost considered, is I think nearly all right. I had several small sheds on my farm which I used in spring as brooder houses, placing the brooder in one corner and on wet or stormy days confining the chicks to the house. This fall I took a notion that these houses were unoccupied too much of the time so concluded to fix them differently so that I could use them all the time if need be. Each house is 6x6 feet square; 5 ft high in front, 3 ft at back; built of sheeting with Neponset Roofing fabric on back, sides and roof. There is a door 4ftx30 inches, and a window 20x24 inches on the south or highest side; this window comes about 10 inches from the top of the sill. The sills are 2x4, and halved at the corners; a rafter at each side 2x4, and one in the center. These houses I placed in line facing the south allowing a space of 16ft between each house. This space I boarded at the back and roofed over, leaving the front open. Put in a solid partition midway between each two houses. Wire netting was put over the front of the open shed to confine the inmates if necessary. The result is the warmest and handiest poultry house imaginable. They are low of course but that adds much to their warmth; and they have so little depth that one has only to just step into the doorway and every part is accessible. Now I can use these houses as breeding pens in the spring, as there is ample room for a male and from 5 to 8 females; next will come the brooders with little chicks, taking care to exterminate by fumigation etc., all lice; then surplus cockerels and stock for sale. A range of houses and sheds on this plan 100 feet long, with a 1½ story barn or store house for feed, bone cutter etc., and straw in loft, in the center of the row, could be built for \$100 by buying cheap or second hand lumber and doing the carpenter work yourself.

G. A. C. CLARKE.

LeMars, Iowa.

Are the hens now laying? If not it is due to a mistake somewhere. It was not the hens that made the mistake. The hens will furnish the eggs if they are given the chance.

Some Experiments.

Editor MESSENGER:—

Sometime ago I conducted an experiment with a view to ascertaining what degree of cold an egg could be subjected to without impairing or destroying its vitality. I wrote you about it at the time. That trial was not entirely satisfactory, so I herewith give you the results of another test. I put 12 eggs in our refrigerator which registered a temperature of 45 degrees. They were kept there 24 hours. The ice getting low the temperature ran up to 60 degrees for a short time. The eggs were given to a hen and the results were as follows: Five lively chicks, six eggs containing dead chicks, and one clear. This did not suit me, so I then put 24 eggs in the refrigerator at a temperature of 41 degrees, and did not permit it to get higher than 47 degrees. These eggs were kept in the refrigerator nearly 48 hours, then given to hens. At the end of 15 days I took the eggs and broke them. Under hen No. 1 there were six eggs nicely started, two addled eggs and four clear. Hen No. 2 had three live chicks, the balance addled. I guess this is enough for me, as I am now convinced that eggs will stand more cold and hatch than is generally believed. But I prefer not to expose them to so low a temperature if it can be avoided.

There is something more which I shall speak about as it may be of some interest to some of your readers. One of my hens stole her nest in the top of the barn and made her nest in the straw. She laid 18 eggs. Thinking this a good opportunity to test the moisture question, I left her unmolested after removing from under her three eggs. At the same time another hen stole her nest in a fence corner on the ground. I was now in clover to conduct my experiment to my entire satisfaction. This hen laid 15 eggs and started to set. I took these eggs handled them over several times and allowed the children to handle them, and put them under another hen in the chicken coop. At the same time I took 12 eggs put them with the three I took from the hen in the barn loft which I marked and put under the hen on the ground. Hen No. 1 in the barn hatched every egg. Hen No. 2 on the ground, with eggs from the coop and three eggs from the loft, hatched out 10 chicks, two of these being from the eggs taken from the hen

in the loft. Hen No. 3 in coop also brought out 10 chicks, the remaining five eggs being addled. I leave it with your readers to draw their own conclusions from these various experiments as to the effect which moisture plays in the natural incubation of eggs.

J. J. BEAN.

Abbottsford, Wisconsin.

All They Will Eat.

"I feed my hens as often as they appear to be hungry," is the expression of a writer in a journal which lies before us. If you do that you feed your hens too much, however much you may know, or think you know, about caring for laying hens in winter. Hens will beg for food when their crops are full almost to bursting. They will gather about the owner and give every manifestation of hunger every time he comes among them. They will do this simply as a matter of habit. Such actions are no indication whatever of their necessities. It is the owner's business to know how much food the hens need to keep them in a laying condition, and he should be wholly indifferent to their appeals for more. The owner of a horse knows when he has had what he requires, and does not continue to stuff him with corn and oats merely because he seems to want it. A hen requires a certain amount of food in order to produce eggs. More than that is a detriment. The owner should give her what she needs, and pay no attention to any demands she may make upon him beyond that.



In the
country,
village,
or in the
suburb

money may be made in the poultry business by the employment of correct methods. You can't afford to keep hens to hatch and brood your chicks. A better and more economical plan and one more certain of good results will be found in the use of the

**RELIABLE
INCUBATOR
& BROODER.**

The remainder of the story and plan of procedure is in our Book on Incubation and Poultry. Send 10 cents for it.

**RELIABLE INCUB
& BROODER CO.,
QUINCY, ILL.**

Close Confinement.

The chickens should be kept within confined quarters during the winter. We mean by this that their liberty should be restricted, and that they should not be allowed to stray at will over the premises. They should always be close to the poultry house, or some other warm building, to which they will retreat whenever they become chilled. The chickens do not need a range in winter. They need protection from the cold winds, a varied diet and exercise; not such exercise as they would obtain by wandering about the yards and fields, but such as they can be induced to take under shelter. They will not be hurt by the close confinement to a small yard during the entire winter if provision has been made for giving them the right kind of care. The yard need only be large enough to enable them to get a breath of fresh air, and give them a sunshiny spot to move about in on bright days. Good feeding will avail very little towards securing a supply of winter eggs if the hens are permitted to go where they please between meals, as a large portion of the time they will be pleased to go where they are entirely beyond shelter, and becoming benumbed with cold will squat down beside a bush or any object which will in the smallest degree shelter them from the wind, and there they will remain until roosting time, or until they are picked up and carried to the poultry house. After a hen has gone through such exposure as this on a day when the thermometer is at zero or below we would not give a pinch of salt for all the eggs that she will lay during the balance of the winter. And yet it is the regular thing with many people to allow their hens to do that, and then get out of all patience with them because they don't lay eggs.

A Winning Plan.

The Messenger editor could give the name of a poultry breeder of his acquaintance who holds a patronage which he built up years ago by his advertisements and manner of dealing with his customers, and which he feels entirely secure of as long as he continues in the business. This breeder made it a rule never to offer a bird without describing its faults as frankly as he did its merits, and when the buyer received the purchase he invariably

found it a little better than it was represented. The result was that the orders flowed back to him from same customers from year to year. They had got started in this strain, which they found is one of unmistakable merit, and and they had had the proof that they would get precisely what they bargained for every time they sent in their order. The name of this breeder is not seen in the advertising columns of the papers as often as it appeared there ten years ago, though he is breeding far more extensively now than he ever did. He doesn't need to advertise as he once did. He has built up a trade which he is able to hold without it. If by any chance he happens to have left a few good birds on his hands towards the close of the season, birds that didn't quite "fill the bill" with respect to any of the orders he had received, he pretty nearly knows which of his former customers can make use of them. By means of some letter writing he always succeeds in getting rid of everything that he cares to sell at high prices, but he turns in with his market poultry a good many birds that would pass with lots of breeders as pretty fair breeding stock.

This is only one of the hundreds of cases where a permanently paying business has been built up by manifesting an extreme regard for the interest of

the customer, and so winning the confidence of one's customers that they will always feel safe in trusting to his word and honor. It is worth a good deal of time and effort on the part of any breeder to get his business established on this basis. It gives him a patronage which he can hold against all the attempts of competitors to lure away from him.

GREAT BIG Light Brahmas,

Stock and eggs for sale in season. My birds will suit you. Ask for prices.

L. M. ROWE, Galva, Iowa.

Here's a Good Thing.

100 Note Heads
100 Envelopes

All nicely printed and illustrated with your favorite breed of fowls, and our paper for one year, all postpaid for only \$1.00.

SAMPLE COPY FREE.

Western Garden and
Poultry Journal, ...
Des Moines, Iowa.

Chicago and Detroit, 1897.

BUFF LEGHORN WINNERS.

I want every person interested in this popular and beautiful breed to send for our large 8-page '97 circular, free, stamp accepted. I have one of the finest flocks in America. Prize winners for six years. Get my circular sure.

GEO. S. BARNES,
Battle Creek, Michigan.

White
Quartz

Makes Hens Lay

Chicken
Grit

Nothing Equals the
Celebrated

White Quartz Grit.

A Trial Will Convince You.

For cash in advance, 100 lbs for \$1.00; 200 lbs for \$1.75, freight prepaid. Special.—For cash in advance, 400 lbs, freight prepaid to Rocky Mountains, for \$3.75.

The use of our grit prevents three-fourths of all hen diseases.

WISCONSIN QUARTZ CO. Wausau, Wis.

Young Chickens Thrive on It.

Makes Digestion Perfect.

98 per ct
Pure
Silica

Good the Year Round

Bird
Health

Overfeeding the Hens.

It's a serious business to the person who keeps poultry for profit when his hens quit laying in winter as the result of overfeeding. His profits, if any, must mostly come from winter eggs. He has been to months of trouble and expense in rearing the chicks. He has paid out hard cash for the building which is to give them shelter during the winter, and just at the moment when eggs are worth the most, and he is calculating to receive his pay for his time and labor the hens cease laying. If he is a master hand at his business he will quickly discover the cause of the trouble and find a remedy for it. But master hands at the business seldom encounter trouble of that kind. They are aware of the danger and keep a safe distance away from it. But the majority of people who make it possible for their hens to get in that condition will find it no easy task to correct the mischief which they have done. They are not "on to" their job well enough to at once discern the cause of the trouble, nor do they know how to apply the brakes in a manner which will bring about a reduction of the fat without producing a shock which will be as effective in defeating the object in mind as the mistake of overfeeding. It is a serious business for such people as this to find a lot of overfat hens on their hands in mid-winter. It is a heavy loss, and one which is made harder to bear because it is something which was wholly unlooked for. It puts them out of all patience with their hens and often makes them give up the business in disgust.

Overfeeding laying hens is the most common mistake made by people who undertake to give extra good care to their poultry. No other one thing puts a stoppage to so many winter eggs as this. Hens must not be deprived of necessary food; but they must be fed in a manner which will produce hardened muscular tissue, not as you would feed a penned porker which was being made ready for the stalls of the butcher. Feed sparingly during the forepart of the day. Keep their appetites sharp so as to tempt them to constant exercise in the scratching pen. At night give them all they will eat. Give every bird the chance to go on to the perch with a full crop. Fowls can be fed all that they need to have in order to maintain a

healthy, thrifty condition, and yet not be made too fat to lay. It's all in the character of the feed and the manner of giving it.

The best way to reduce an overfat hen is to withhold from her grain entirely. Once a day give her half a handful of perfectly lean meat, and scatter a spoonful of millet seed over a thickly littered floor. Confine her to this treatment for a week, and then gradually return to a safe daily ration.

Different Aims.

Some people keep chickens merely for the satisfaction of buying feed for them and furnishing them a comfortable place in which to live. This is what is called keeping poultry for pleasure. But the ordinary keeper of poultry will not get much pleasure out of it unless some profit goes with it. The degree of pleasure will generally be in proportion to the extent of the profit.

It has recently been alleged by an American sojourning in England that the keepers of fullblood poultry in that country, or fanciers, if you like that objectionable term, have no thought of profit in connection with their fowls. Indeed, this writer says, many of them expressed the utmost surprise when told that American keepers of poultry of like kind made money by so doing, and many of them make a good deal of it. If this is a truthful statement of the case the utility people ought to move their headquarters to that country. Their reiterated statements in regard to standard bred poultry would go unchallenged over there.

F. C. Wheaton, of Primghar, Iowa, will ship birds subject to inspection to responsible parties before requiring the same to be paid for. Mr. Wheaton's stock are direct descendants from the I. K. Felch and E. B. Thompson strains, and are probably as choice lot of Barred Plymouth Rocks as can be found in the state.

Christmas With an Emperor.

The Christmas Ladies' Home Journal tells how the German Emperor, with the Empress and the Royal family, spend Christmas Day with their children. The article is written by Mr. Nagel von Brawe, an attache of the Court, who was permitted to be present

at the celebration last Christmas in order to write this article. The pictures were made "on the spot," and approved by the Emperor.

\$100 Reward \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature to do its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Belgian Hares,

BARRED PLY. ROCK CHICKENS

For sale at reasonable prices. Correspond with me before buying.

C. H. LIGGIT, Stewartstown, York co., Pa.

Mrs. S. M. Long, Magnolia, Minn. Five breeds purebred poultry. Send for free price list of stock and eggs.

BUFF Plymouth Rocks,

EXCLUSIVELY.

I breed only Buff Rocks in the future. They have proved the best for me. No more stock until spring. Eggs in season from two pens.

H. B. BOYER,

TAMPICO, ILL.

Breeder of the Best Buff Rocks in the West.

BLACK MINORCAS.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorns.
Barred Plymouth Rocks.

No better stock found anywhere. Eggs \$1.00 per 13. Satisfaction guaranteed.

W. H. PROTEXTER, Sheldon, Iowa.

WELCH'S Single-Comb Brown LEGHORNS

Good birds for sale at all times for breeding and show purposes at reasonable prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. Eggs in season, \$1.50 per sitting. Correspondence promptly answered.

Wolverine Poultry Yard,

Jas. C. Welch, Prop.

Lansing, Mich.

Not a Lazy Man's Job.

Industry and perseverance are the two qualities which count the heaviest towards successful poultry keeping. It is work to properly look after poultry, and it takes quite a spell to learn just how to do the work. It is not something which is picked up quickly and easily. In order to keep poultry at a profit a man must be industrious and persevering beyond the common run of men. And yet it is an undeniable fact that a large proportion of the people who are attracted to this business are about as destitute of these requisites as they could possibly be. They have tried their hand at a dozen different occupations, and made a failure of them all. They are continually looking for a "soft snap," and by and by they are impressed with the idea that they have found it in poultry culture. And it really does look like an easy job. The hens lay the eggs and all you have got to do is to take them to market and get the money for them. Clearly there is nothing hard about that, is the thought of the individual who is looking around for some easy way of making a living. Some of the laziest and most shiftless men we have ever known have undertaken to support themselves by means of poultry farming. They have built houses, laid out yards, bought incubators in the fullest confidence of making the business pay handsomely. The possibility of failure did not seem to occur to them. But of course they failed ignominiously, and any successful poultryman could have told them at the start that such would be the outcome of their attempt. It takes an active, watchful, persistent man to build up a profitable poultry business. The man of careless, indolent habits had better not try it. We have no great friendship for a man of that kind, but we are willing to give him this much advice free.

Hens don't obtain the lime which they need for forming the shells of eggs from limestone, oyster shells, or other inorganic material. The lime is in the food in a soluble condition, and if this were not the case the hen would speedily become bankrupt in egg shell material though she lived in a limestone quarry. Lime is introduced into the system of the hen in the same manner that it is introduced into that of her owner.

Charcoal.

Many of the poultry articles tell us to feed pounded charcoal, which is very good for them, but no one has told us how to make it. A few years ago when hog cholera was so bad, an old man went through this part of Nebraska and showed the farmers how to make a very good charcoal for the hogs. It is equally good for both hogs and chickens, and between them a pile will not last very long. I made some when I cleaned up the yard in the spring, and I will have another cleaning soon. But the right way is to go into the hog yard when it is dry and rake up a big pile of corn cobs. Set it on fire all round and rake it over so as to burn as even as possible. When it has burned down to red coals rake together in a small pile and throw oats on it to put out the fire; rake oats and coals around, and if they are still burning pile up again and throw on another pail of oats. I have seen the men use two and three bushels of oats for their piles, but two or three pails will put out what I burn. After it has cooled off gather it up and put it away in barrels in a dry place, and it is good for all winter. On no account use water in putting out the fire, as that ruins the quality of the charcoal. The fowls will not leave one of the charred oats; they all disappear, so they are not wasted if you use a good many.—Ida Blanchard, in Am. Poultry Journal.

W. H. Miller, Independence, Iowa, has several hundred Barred Plymouth Rocks which he is offering at a very low price for the next 30 days. These birds are the progeny of fine show stock, and many of them will be the winners at the shows this winter.

Northern eggs are larger than those produced in southern countries. In the United States the eggs of the north are larger than those of the south, and Canada eggs are larger than those produced in the northern states of the Union.

A Few Words About Our Baby.

In the first place it must be understood that the Baby is not a mere plaything; and yet we ship a great many machines to parties whom we have reason to believe buy for amusement only. The Baby Incubator is a practical chicken hatcher, and must have the same attention, (no more or no less), than the large machines. The profit in the manufacture of these small machines is practically nothing; but the majority of those who use the Baby soon want "full grown" machines, and on these we make a reasonable profit. We can give you testimonials by the hundred, and if you want further proof of the merit of our incubators and brooders we refer you to Mr. P. H. Jacobs, Editor Poultry Keeper.

The price of the Baby is only \$4.50. See advertisement in another column of this paper, and don't fail to mention where you saw the same when writing.

A. H. WHITMORE,
Hammonton, N. J.

Valuable Formula for 10 Cents.

Hooper's Lice Formula kills insect life with lightning dispatch. Rough on Lice, Mites, Bedbugs, Roaches, Fleas, Ants, etc.; exterminates with magical effect; cheap, harmless, easily applied, directions for making 10 cents, (stamps) circulars free. F. L. Hooper, box 8, Station D, Baltimore, Maryland.



MONEY IN HENS. Do you know how to get it? Our NEW POULTRY BOOK tells it all. How to get Eggs when prices are high. How to Keep Hens healthy and profitable. How to Save Young Chickens and hasten their growth. How to destroy lice that worry the little chicks to death. How to treat all their diseases. How to Keep all your Live Stock in fine condition. HOW TO BUILD POULTRY HOUSES. Descriptions of different Breeds. Price List of High Grade Poultry, Eggs, and Supplies of all kinds. This Book given FREE as premium with the Farm Paper (Wayside Cleanings) 3 months for 10 cents. Address, **POULTRY, C. S. V. & CO., CLINTONVILLE, CONN.**



CUSTOM MADE SUITS

Shipped C. O. D. with privilege of examination. We import our own goods and save you half of Local Tailors prices. Our workmanship, trimmings and fit cannot be excelled. Satisfaction guaranteed. Quality cannot be surpassed. Express Prepaid to any part of the United States. Send for full line of samples, catalogue and measurement blanks, with tape measure Free. **THE PROGRESS TAILORING CO., MENTION DEPT. 11, MEDINAH TEMPLE, CHICAGO.**

A Fine lot of White Wyandottes, Buff Rocks, Cockerels For Sale. White P. Rocks, Cornish Indians. Eggs After December 1st.

820 N. 6th Avenue.

E. L. OSBORN, Quincy, Illinois.



SWINGING FEED TRAY FOR POULTRY. Its cost in waste food alone. Hens cannot scratch food out of it, nor dirt into it, nor roost on it. We sell for cash or instalments.

MANN'S GREEN BONE CUTTERS

and MANN'S Granite Crystal GRIT

Are two great egg makers. They prove the triumph of science over guesswork. Success is certain. Hens will lay twice as many eggs when fed on green bone and grit.

MANN'S SWINGING FEED TRAY for poultry will save its cost in waste food alone. Hens cannot scratch food out of it, nor dirt into it, nor roost on it. We sell for cash or instalments. **F. W. MANN CO., Milford, Mass.**



Heated Feeds.

In their anxiety to furnish the hens with a warm breakfast, people often overshoot the mark by feeding the mash almost scalding hot. The warmth is regarded of such high importance that the feeder is tempted to go to an extreme limit, stopping short only of a burning temperature. If the hens can swallow the mixture without actually searing the skin from their throats it is thought that the owner has gained a point to his advantage, as he has thereby succeeded in pumping into them a few more degrees of heat, and good authorities have assured him that heat is the main factor in winter egg production.

Some well known poultrymen contend that the morning mash should be fed cold, not at a freezing temperature, but as cold as the meal would be after being kept in a warm room over night. They believe that the feeding of warm mashes tends to the production of colds, leading up to that most serious of all winter disorders, the roup. The experience of the majority of poultrymen does not sustain this view except as it applies to cases where the morning meal is habitually given steaming hot. The mash should be given in a lukewarm state, nothing more than that. When so fed it communicates an agreeable warmth to the hen, and we cannot believe that it will tend in the slightest degree to the evil consequences just named. The writer's personal acquaintance extends to people who have discarded the mash altogether, feeding only whole grain and bone, and yet are highly successful in obtaining winter eggs. But we are persuaded that people in general will find it to their advantage to adhere to the mash. It is recommended by the great majority of the most widely known poultry breeders. These people have adopted it after carefully testing the various systems of feeding, and where there is such a preponderance of opinion in favor of the mash, it can hardly be doubted that there are substantial reasons for making it a part of the daily ration. But we are confident that very many amateurs in undertaking to follow the advice of these people have been led into the error of feeding the mash too hot. Hens don't need hot food any more than they need red pepper. The

use of both has done vastly more harm than good.

Don't Lose Your Head.

Be content to "make haste slowly." Don't be in too much of a rush to get a large flock on your hands and make money rapidly. The people who make a substantial success of poultry farming take plenty of time to get a good ready. They are not feverishly anxious to get hold of the dollars "right away quick." They have sense enough to know that is not the surest way to obtain them. They are plodders. They move along at a very steady gait, making sure all the while that they are on solid ground. They experiment all the time, but they don't make experiments at the risk of serious disaster in case the results should turn out differently from what they had expected. They learn their business first and then they begin to think of making the business pay them some money. Most people who undertake to keep poultry at a profit make a failure of it, because most people who undertake to do this lack the patience to plod along slowly until they have learned their trade. Don't rush into the poultry business calculating to make money fast and immediately. If you do you will rush out of it in a short time with less money than you had at the start.

Inbreeding.

Inbreeding is a question of much consideration. Only those who follow this method can hope to succeed in producing any number of fowls with family resemblance. As to how far this can be successfully followed, no one can tell. The writer visited a yard of White Leghorns a short time since and saw several hundred fine, large, vigorous chicks, that showed the most perfect health, although no outside bird, either male or female, has been introduced into these yards for seven years. The finest cockerel of each year is bred back to his grandmother, and thus the blood is kept renewed. In addition to this all the breeding hens are sent away to a farm each year after breeding season, so they may add new vigor to their constitutions by the change of life and soil. —T. F. McGrew, in R. P. Journal.

Black Minorcas. Northup strain. Seven years experience breeding them. Stock for sale. Satisfaction guaranteed. **Wm. F. Steen, Paullina, Iowa.**

F. W. Mann Company.

We call attention to the new advertisement of the F. W. Mann Company in this issue. They advertise two new articles—Mann's Granite Crystal Grit and Mann's Swinging Feed Trays.

The Mann's Granite Crystal Grit they claim to be a very superior article, unequaled by any on the market. It is composed of innumerable crystals, each shaped like a diamond, and almost as sharp. However small the pieces, they always present a ragged and sharp exterior. It is also rich in mica, iron, silica and aluminium.

Their Swinging Feed Tray they claim is meeting with a most cordial reception among poultrymen. It is so arranged that it is impossible for food to be wasted. The hens can't scratch food out of it, nor dirt into it, nor roost over it. Such a food tray has long been wanted, and will undoubtedly find ready sale.

But perhaps the most important of all is the fact that they have made an improvement on their Bone Cutter, which governs the labor in cutting so that it is almost impossible to make it run hard. The attachment is perfectly automatic, and needs no attention whatever, and the machine cuts finer and faster than ever. This attachment can also be applied to their old style machine. No owner of a Mann's Bone Cutter that runs hard should fail to write to them, as they can rely upon certain relief.

This company is the pioneer in the successful manufacture of Bone Cutters. They have had years of experience and can be relied upon to faithfully carry out their agreements.

Incubators FOR CASH OR ON 30 Days Trial.

Any Size.
Any Kind.
Cash, \$5.00.
Self-Regulating
Trial, \$5.75
50-Egg
Size.

Or Larger and Better Ones.

"My three hatches with Bantam, from 50 eggs each, were 20, 37 and 48 chicks. Jacob Whippert, Cecil, Ohio."

Send 4c for 104 Catalogue and Trial Offer.
BUCKEYE INCUBATOR CO. Springfield, O.

My Partridge Cochins

Are birds that you will not be afraid to put on exhibition when they become your own. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$3 for 20. Stock for sale.
J. N. VEEDER, Primghar, Iowa.

The Plymouth County Poultry Association.

FIRST ANNUAL SHOW.

Le Mars, Iowa, Feb., 2, 3, 4 and 5, '98.

THEO. HEWES, Judge.

LIBERAL PREMIUMS

COMPLETE STANDARD CLASSIFICATION. For premium lists and information, address

G. A. C. CLARKE, Secretary, Le Mars, Iowa.

Oats as a Feed for Poultry.

Poultry keepers differ widely in regard to oats as a food for fowls. One will declare that oats cannot be fed regularly without producing trouble of a serious nature—that it will clog the crop or that the sharp needle like points of the hulls will pierce the intestines, producing hemorrhage and death. Another breeder will contend that oats is the best of all the grains for poultry, and will make a wholesale denial of its tendency to produce the evil results above named. This writer confesses to a prejudice against feeding oats in years gone by—a prejudice which has been considerably weakened by later experience. We have had crop bound hens on our hands as the result, we supposed of feeding oats, and we have fed oats to excess for weeks at a time without such results or without trouble of any kind which we could reasonably attribute to the feed. We remember conversing with a highly successful breeder once who told us that even when wheat and corn were abundant and cheap oats was his principal reliance in winter, and he cared very little about his laying hens getting any other kind of grain. This was told us when we were more distrustful of oats than we are at present, and was an answer to our confident assertion that there is al-

ways an element of danger in feeding it with any degree of freedom. Boiling or soaking the oats will lessen the danger, if there really is any danger from the hulls, and very many breeders resort to this plan; but our own experience is against it. Boiled oats has been a disappointment to us. In the first place the hens do not readily take to it, but mince over it in a way which indicates that they do not relish it. In no instance have we ever fed boiled oats continuously without having the egg record going the wrong way. We should not omit saying, however, that this experience is directly opposed to that of other people of our acquaintance.

Oats may safely compose a part of the hens' regular bill of fare. It may produce cropbound occasionally, but it would be hard to name any kind of grain, or any kind of feed, for that matter, but what will sometimes cause unfavorable effects. Oats may be open to a little more objection on this account than wheat or corn, but for all this it is a good feed for poultry, and when given in moderation will rarely lead up to any harmful results.

The export of eggs from the United States is on the increase. In 1896 we sent 300,000,000 away or about double the quantity that was exported the year before.

Great Poultry Show.

The National Fanciers' Association, of Chicago, will hold their Second Annual Show, Jan. 24th to 29th at the 2nd Regiment Armory Hall, on Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. The importance of this show is sufficient to secure excursion rates over the railroads, and anyone desirous of attending can arrange for cheap transportation by addressing the secretary, W. W. Hogle, 1015 Benson Ave., Evanston, Ill. Elaborate preparations are being made and there is no doubt but what it will be the best show of the season in the central west.

—THAT—

Great Show,

—THE—

KLONDIKE

—OF—

American Fanciers,

Will be held at Lansing, Michigan, December 20-25, 1897, under the auspices of the

Central Michigan

Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association. H. A. Bridge, judge. Premium List will be ready about November 1st.

CHAS. H. CRANE, Secretary,
Lansing, Michigan.

Every Poultry Keeper Needs One.

The small, low-priced incubators which have of late years been put upon the market by manufacturers fill a want which has long existed with a class of poultry keepers whose needs do not call for the larger machines. These little incubators, in the main, do good work. Many people have the impression that they are simply a toy or a plaything. This is a mistaken idea. They will hatch pretty nearly, if not quite as large a per cent of the eggs entrusted to them as the large incubators. They are good, servicable machines, and people who keep only a few hens which would not warrant them in buying a standard incubator, can put one of these little hatchers to a use which will pay for itself every year.

The early hatched chicks are usually the most valuable ones of the flock. They are the most salable. They are the earliest layers, and are the main dependence for winter eggs. Broody hens are scarce in February and the early part of March. A small incubator which will cost in the neighborhood of five dollars, will render the owner independent of the hens, and enable him to get out several broods early in the season. Every keeper of poultry should own one of these machines if the size of his plant does not justify him in buying a larger one. Too many poultry houses are crowded with late hatched chicks that will never half pay the debt they owe their owner for their feed. Such worthless stock as this would be less plentiful if more people possessed the means for early hatching.

The Folly of It.

No sensible excuse can be presented for keeping scrub fowls. No circumstance or condition can be alleged in justification of it. People are frequently heard to say that they keep fowls only for the purpose of having fresh eggs for their table, and a chicken dinner as often as they may desire it. But these people would have more eggs if they kept thoroughbreds, and their chicken dinner would be incomparably better than that which is furnished them by the scrubs. Scrubs are mighty poor eating by comparison with any of the fullbloods which are recommend for their table qualities. The common run of farmers are doubtful as to whether it

would be any advantage in them to discard the mongrels and give their place to fullbloods. They argue that their surplus stock all goes to market, and fine plumage and fine "points" don't count for anything when sold in that manner. But the farmer is under no compulsion to sell birds of high value in that manner. Any farmer of ordinary intelligence can soon learn the standard requirements which apply to any one breed of fowls. And when he has done this he is a very foolish farmer if he sells a bird with well rounded out points as market poultry. There is a buyer waiting for every bird of that kind that the farmer can raise who stands ready to pay as much for him as a whole coopful of scrubs will bring in market. This is a fact about which there is not a particle of doubt. It is true the farmer must know how to go about finding this buyer, but surely he is as capable of doing this as other men who regularly dispose of their best birds in this way. The birds which possess no points of value will at least bring as much as market poultry as the scrubs. Everything which is sold for breeding or exhibition purposes is clear gain, and the gain will amount to something worth looking after if the farmer has an eye to business and looks after his chances. It will take two or three dollars to get a start in fullblood poultry, if one chooses to make his beginning with eggs. Any one of the birds that is fit to go into the show room will pay all the expense of the start. We care not what may be ones object in keeping poultry, it will pay him best to keep poultry of this kind.

100 Young Cockerels Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, and Black Minorcas, from premium birds, large and good color, part of them show birds; write for bargains. **Chas. Crane, Parkersburg, Ia.**

200 FINE 200
Barred P. Rock Cockerels.

For sale at \$2 to \$4 each, large birds. A few Buff Cochins Bantams at \$3 to \$4 per pair.

10 FINE POLAND CHINA SOWS
bred to Happy Boy, he by Happy Union; the \$4000 hog. **White French Artichokes and Beardless Barley for seed.**

W. H. MILLER, Independence, Iowa.

SINGLE AND ROSE COMB
WHITE Leghorns

W. Wyandottes and W. Ply. Rocks.
April hatched chicks for sale.
W. J. SHIELDS, Harmon's Creek, Pa.

Printing Free.

Any reader of The Messenger who will get one new subscriber for the paper, and send his own name, address and breeds, together with that of the new subscriber and the 25 cents in silver to H. J. German, Poultry Printer, Wyomere, Nebraska, will receive 100 finely printed basket labels free, worth 50c.

Between Three and Four O'Clock.

The night feed should not be given at night, but at least two hours before the hens will want to go to roost. And the litter on the floor should be bulky enough to keep them busily employed for that length of time in order to obtain what grain they need. Two hours of active exercise just before going on the perches beats all the medicines, the hot things and the tonics that anybody ever thought of dosing fowls with. Fowls should feed slowly. Nature so intended it. You cannot easily spread too much litter on the floor of the scratching pen if it is made up of short material such as can be easily thrown about by the feet of the hens.

E. L. Osborn, of Quincy, Illinois, is devoting himself heart and hand to the breeding of his four specialties; White Wyandottes, White Plymouth Rocks, Buff Rocks, and Cornish Indians. His stock ranks equal to the best in his locality, and it takes good stock to do that in Quincy. Before making your purchases give him a chance to describe to you what he has to sell.

FANCY PIGEONS,

Guinea Pigs and Rabbits—all varieties, and Golden Seabright Bantams.
W. C. HUGUNIN, Spencer, Iowa.

ROUP Foley's Roup Cure is a preventive and a cure. Send for a 50c bottle and don't lose a fowl. Sole agents United States

Buckeye Incubator Co.
Springfield, Ohio.

BABY A self regulating incubator all complete for
It is just what you are after
Send at once for particulars
\$4.50.
A. H. WHITMORE, Hammon, N. J.



G. W. TOYNE
Gildden, Iowa.
Breeder and
Mater of
SILVER-LACED WYANDOTTES, Only.
Eggs \$1 for 15.
Birds for Sale

How to Dress and Ship Poultry.

(The following directions for dressing and shipping poultry are sent out by the Sprague Commission House, Chicago.)

In the first place, Poultry should be kept without food 24 hours; full crops injure the appearance and are liable to sour, and when this does occur correspondingly lower prices must be accepted than obtainable for choice stock. Never kill poultry by wringing the neck.

TO DRESS CHICKENS—Kill by bleeding in the mouth or opening the veins of the neck; hang by the feet until properly bled. Leave head and feet on and do not remove intestines or crop. Scalded Chickens sell best to home trade and dry picked best to shippers, so that either manner of dressing will do, if properly executed. For scalding Chickens, the water should be as near the boiling point as possible, without boiling; pick the legs dry before scalding; hold by the head and legs and immerse and lift up and down three times; if the head is immersed it turns the color of the comb and gives the eyes a shrunken appearance, making buyers think the fowl has been sick; the feathers and pin feathers should then be removed immediately, very cleanly and without breaking the skin; then "plump" by dipping ten seconds in water nearly or not quite boiling hot, and then immediately into cold water; hang in a cool place until the animal heat is entirely out. To dry-pick Chickens properly the work should be done while the Chickens are bleeding; do not wait and let the bodies get cold. Dry picking is much more easily done while the bodies are warm. Be careful and do not break and tear the skin.

TO DRESS TURKEYS—Observe the same instructions as given for preparing chickens, but always dry pick. Dressed Turkeys when dry picked always sell best and command better prices than scalded lots, as their appearance is brighter and more attractive. Endeavor to market all old and heavy Gobblers before January 1st, as after the holidays the demand is for small, round, fat Hen Turkeys only, old "Toms" being sold at a discount to canners.

The man who buys birds of A. H. Lane, of Keosauqua, Iowa, will get his money's worth every time. Mr. Lane is an experienced breeder, and he will sell good birds at reasonable prices

Table Scraps.

In preparing table scraps for the hens it is important that the material be reduced to small pieces, otherwise many of the birds will be made to lose a meal. A lump of meat, or dry bread will be seized upon and carried off to some far corner where the hen will devote herself to the effort to pick it to pieces—an effort which will be only in a small measure successful, and after the bulk of the meal in the trough has been disposed of, some other member of the flock will wrest it away from her, and that hen enters upon the duties of the day on a very light breakfast. Such material should be chopped into very small pieces in order that it may be as equally distributed among the flock as possible.

Reported Cure for Feather Pulling.

A trusty writer recommends that a chunk of tough raw beef be hung up in the poultry house where the vice of feather pulling has been contracted. The fowls should in the meantime be fed scantily at the troughs, and be kept busy scratching in the litter for what grain they get. Their craving for animal matter will be appeased by the meat, and their anxiety to get at the grain in the litter will leave them no idle time to sit on the perches and pull the feathers from each other's necks.

Cracked Corn.

We are of the opinion that cracked corn is better for the scratching pen than whole grain. It compels more vigorous exercise on the part of the fowls by increasing the time required for them to obtain the meal. This is perhaps the only advantage it has over whole grain, but we believe it is an advantage which will well pay for the trouble of cracking the grain when a machine is at hand for doing it.

To Brighten the Combs.

If the combs and wattles are rubbed with equal parts of sweet oil and alcohol just before the birds are put on exhibition it will impart a bright red color which will greatly improve their appearance. Strong cider vinegar will have the same effect.

Silver Laced Wyandottes Exclusively.

I have bred them for eight years. 25 good large cockerels for sale cheap. A few pullets to spare. Send for prices; mention Messenger

A. N. WRIGHT, Owatonna, Minn.

300 BUFF LEGHORNS,
And they are Good Ones.

These birds have had the best of care and range, and are in prime condition. I can furnish you with what you want, and you will find my prices reasonable.

Black Langshans.

My birds of this breed were bred from fine show birds, and are sure to give a good account of themselves wherever put on exhibition. Score cards furnished.

M. PARROTT,
AURELIA, IOWA.

Poultry Supplies Of every description
The best grade for
the least money. Illustrated catalogue free.

I. F. SCHOTT,
New Pittsburg, Wayne Co., Ohio.

Make Money**Mounting Birds**

—WITH—

Ackley's : Taxeder.**No Skinning,**

And very little practice required. Works equally well on large or small birds. The birds have a life-like appearance obtained by no other process. One box of Ackley's Taxeder is sufficient to mount 20 birds. The box with full directions only \$1.00.

NO TOOLS REQUIRED

Excepting such as everyone has on hand. Birds mounted in this manner won the highest award at the World's Fair. A Taxedermist's work is both pleasant and profitable.

T. L. ACKLEY.

Mention Messenger.

Hawarden, Iowa.

BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCKS

Are leaders at Lone Oak Poultry Yards. Also B. and W. Ply. Rocks, Buff Leghorns, Buff Cochins, S. S. Hamburgs, B. Langshans and Lt. Brahmas, Toulouse Geese and Pekin Ducks. Young stock for sale. Eggs in season.

A BARGAIN

in one yard of Lt. Brahmas, 10 hens and one cock for \$12.00.

A. C. DILLER, Marshalltown, Iowa.

THE POULTRY MESSENGER, AND Western Fruit-Grower.

Published the 15th of every month by
The Messenger Company,
AURELIA, IOWA.

Subscription Price, 25 Cents per Year

It is to be hoped that the man who was so deeply grieved last season because he didn't get more than eight chicks from the sitting of eggs which he bought, has all preparations made for selling eggs for hatching purposes the coming season. There is nothing on earth which he needs so much as just one year's experience in that kind of work.

Waste of labor is as bad a fault as waste of feed. Labor is the same as money, and must be used judiciously and economically. The keeper of poultry finds an endless round of duties awaiting his hands. How to make his capacity for labor hold out and leave no important task undone, is a problem which he needs to think over very carefully. Many a poultryman has exhausted his stock of labor in a fruitless effort to fill a larger contract than he was capable of taking care of, and made a wreck of his business in consequence.

The poultry judge will make some mistakes, it matters not under what system he may be working. He is only human and cannot help it. You would do the same if you were a poultry judge. You will think better of yourself, and others will think better of you, if you will be a reasonable human being and not demand wholly faultless work at the hands of the poultry judges.

If buff is any shade from lemon to red why is not white anything between lemon and white? If the revision committee didn't know what buff is it should have got some one to tell them, and then fixed things so that hereafter buff fowls should be buff.

The man who will lie about his stock in his advertisements and circulars will cheat his patron if he has a chance to do it. If one's aim is to build up a permanent business he must have strict regard for the truth in connection with all his representations to the public. If his intention is to make a "scoop" by

working buyers for a year or two for all that can be got out of them, he need not be anyways particular about telling the truth. The farther the conductor of a fake business can get away from the truth the better it will pan out, while it lasts.

A man is not necessarily an idiot because he does not think as you do. It is right to convert him to your way of thinking, because it cannot be possible that you are in the wrong, but knocking him down with a club is not the best way to go about it. Poultrymen can argue and discuss without quarreling. The man who loses his temper and says things intended to hurt the feelings of his adversary always weakens his side of the controversy.

If you do your very best in any honorable calling you will succeed, unless you have attempted something wholly beyond your capacity. People fail, as a rule, not because the tide against them is too strong for them to stem, but because they lack the courage to stand up before the disappointments and persevere to the end.

May we not hope that the man who gets left at the poultry show this year will be ready to admit that it was his best birds that he had on exhibition, or else be able to give a better explanation than he has heretofore as to why he left his best birds at home.

There will be sinners among your competitors at the poultry show who would not hesitate to pluck a feather from between the toes of a Plymouth Rock to save it from disqualification. You may think this is bad business, but if you want a fighting chance at the show you had better look at things as they are and not as you think they ought to be. Some highly respectable poultrymen have publicly declared that plucking feathers from the legs of such breeds is not a very naughty thing to do.

The breeder who makes a regular practice of selling his best birds will see the day when the best birds of his flock are such birds as nobody wants.

Barred Plymouth Rocks

Stock and Eggs. Write wants. W. A. Shipton, Uhrichville, Ohio.

The Eureka Fruit Tree Preparation. From the Iowa Homestead:

The Homestead always takes pleasure in calling the attention of its readers to anything that it feels would be of benefit to them, and therefore it has no apology to offer in directing attention to the Eureka Fruit Tree Preparation, of which our first page illustration is a reminder. This preparation is no new experiment to the manufacturer, Mr. F. P. Marts, of Farmington, Iowa, as he has used it since his boyhood. An old German fruit grower gave Mr. Marts' father the directions for this protection when Iowa was yet in her infancy. Father and sons have used it more or less every year since, and never once has a tree been barked by anything, and the orchards have never received any other protection. Last August a representative of the Homestead visited Mr. Marts' orchard and found it all and more than he claimed for it. The trees that had been planted for two years showed a fine, smooth bark rarely found elsewhere, with no borers or any of the little annoyances that spoil so many trees. Our representative also met a number of Farmington's leading men, and all were of one opinion, that this preparation was no fraud and that Mr. Marts was a man of sterling principles, and we do not hesitate to say that we think the Eureka Fruit Tree Preparation is going to fill a long-felt want. All of Mr. Marts' neighbors for miles around have visited his orchard, and bought enough of the preparation to treat their trees, and they say that for a nice, smooth, healthy bark and growth it beats everything they have ever seen. One man has bought thirty-six quarts for his private use. There are many reasons why the Eureka preparation should be used and why our readers who have fruit trees should not be without it, but our space is limited, and therefore we call the attention of our readers to the advertisement found on page 20 of this issue for further particulars.

W. E. Dorland & Co.,

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

Breeders of thoroughbred Silver Laced Wyandottes, Light Brahmas, Single Comb Brown Leghorns, Single Comb White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks and Bronze Turkeys. Fifteen varieties of land and water fowls. Prize winners from the famous Mansfield Poultry Yards. Catalogue free on application.

EGGS ARE WANTED



by all experienced poultry keepers. How to get them is told in our pamphlets, which we send free to all interested poultry.

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Bay City, Michigan.

Breeder's Cards.

BLACK MINORCAS, Cockerels 75 cts each while they last. Eggs in season. Mrs. C. A. Jones, Wilmington, Illinois. Box 394.

SCOTCH COLLIE puppies, bred from trained parents. High class poultry. E. E. Hoffer, Cresco, Indiana. Box 10.

FOR SALE. Fine Barred Ply. Rock hens and pullets from \$1 to \$2 each. Cockerels from \$1.50 to \$5.00. C. B. Wagner, Hiteman, Monroe county, Iowa.

PHANCY PHOWLS at Crystal River Poultry Yards. Gold and Silver Wyandottes, Red Caps, Silver S. Hamburgs, Rouen and Pekin Ducks, or will trade for ducks of these varieties, or for Buff Plymouth Rock cockerel or Buff Pekin Bantam hens. R. J. Holman, Wau-paca, Wisconsin. (Parfreyville box,

W. E. DONAT, Maynard, Iowa, breeder of fullblood White Plymouth Rocks. Eggs \$1 per fifteen.

S. C. B. LEGHORNS, exclusively. Eggs 15 for 50 cents. C. M. Saltzer, Nursery, Illinois.

\$25 IN PREMIUMS offered to those sending orders. Send 2 stamps for premium list and circular to Robert Hartwig, Hackney, Mo.

W. C. B. POLISH, W. Frizzles for sale. Good stock. Eggs in season \$1 per setting. Segwum Poultry Farm, Lowell, Michigan.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, Cockerels \$1 each; pullets 75 cents; eggs 4 cents each. A. M. Chamberlain, Aurelia, Iowa.

P. E. TWINING, Kipton, Ohio, (Lorain County), breeder of high class poultry of leading varieties. Send for catalogue.

WILLIS WHINERY, Salem, Ohio, breeder of 20 varieties of fullblood poultry. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Write for what you want.

F. E. COLEMAN, Manchester Green, Conn., breeder of Barred Plymouth Rocks exclusively. Eggs for hatching \$1.25 per 13; \$2 per 26. Poultry Journal one year free with every order. Please mention The Messenger.

W. E. BEARD, De Witt, Iowa, breeder and mater of Silver Wyandottes—12th year. Stock and eggs for sale in season.

JAMES M. SMITH, Perkiomenville, Pa., Box 7, breeds all leading varieties of poultry. Eggs \$2 per 13. Fine catalogue free.

BLACK MINORCAS. Winners at two banner shows, Cleveland and Pittsburg, winning eight premiums and two specials on eight entries at Pittsburg show. Fine breeding cockerels at reasonable prices. Eggs in season. Write for circular. Robert Mairer, Akron, Ohio.

IF YOU WANT BIRDS that will stand the test write us for prices on Houdans, Light Brahmas, Barred and White Rocks and Pekin Ducks. E. & M. Hissong, Washington, Iowa.

VILLA PARK POULTRY YARDS, Black Minorcas and Buff Leghorns. Eggs reduced to \$1 per 13. Stock for sale at all times. Satisfaction guaranteed. Walter Harned, Trenton, New Jersey.

MRS. JASPER COON, Correctionville, Iowa, breeder of L. Brahmas, B. Langshans, Buff and White Cochins, W. P. Rocks and C. I. Games. Eggs in season.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, exclusively. Conger, Hawkins, Lawton's best strains. Write me before you buy. J. D. Stevenson, Kill-buck, Ohio.

JOHN KILD, Columbia, Pa., breeder of exhibition Buff Plymouth Rocks exclusively. Eggs \$2 a setting; three settings for \$5. Circular giving symptoms and remedies for all diseases of poultry free, worth dollars to you. Stamp please.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS exclusively. Pen is headed by LaCrosse's first prize cock, 93½ by Emery, E. E. Ross strain. Mated to high class females. Eggs \$2 per 13. J. O. Mills, Ashland, Wisconsin.

Bantams, Pigeons, Black Red Game from imported stock. Buff Cochins, Black Africans from winners. Pigeons, Barbs, Pouters, Swallows at reasonable prices. A. F. Hughes, Springfield, Illinois.

BARRED ROCKS Exclusively. I am now ready to sell choice cockerels from such strains as Hawkins and Gibsons. No better strains on earth than these. Also have some choice Poland China Gills safe in pig for sale; write for prices. They will surprise you. A. L. Manwell, Vinton, Iowa. box 783.

◆ Cornish Indians, ◆ EXCLUSIVELY.

I will have some fine stock for sale early in October.

C. C. OSTERHOLD, Quincy, Illinois.
919 Chestnut Street.

IT'S EASILY HANDLED A CHILD OPERATES THE PALACE INCUBATOR



**30 DAYS FREE
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ADDRESS TO
BOX 105
MERRIAM PARK, MINN.**

The Messenger and Thrice-A-Week
New York World, both for \$1.00.



EUREKA FRUIT TREE PREPARATION. See page 12.

FRUITS.

The Hunt plum is a new variety which promises to be a rival of the best which are being successfully grown in the west. It attracted much attention at the Iowa State Fair. As a cooking plum it is equally as good as the De Soto, Wolf or Wyant, the skins disappearing entirely when cooked. It is a safe bearer and the fruit matures soon after the Wild Goose.

Train the apple trees to a low head. No argument of any force can be brought forward in support of tall trees. Such trees are easier to cultivate, but when they have passed the stage when cultivation is necessary, the height is in every way a disadvantage. They are more liable to injury by the wind, their branches afford less shade and protection to the trunks, and it greatly adds to the difficulties of gathering the fruit.

In laying down blackberry or raspberry canes for winter covering much of the unpleasant part of the work can be saved by rolling a short log over the rows, thus pressing the cane to the ground, and after covering moving on to the next one. The grasping of the thorny canes with the hands is by this means avoided.

The majority of fruit growers look upon the robin as an enemy, and, as a matter of fact, he does often succeed in filching rather more than his share of the fruit. But it has been ascertained that he consumes pretty nearly his weight of worms every day, and it is altogether likely that he pays the fruit grower full price for all the berries that he takes from him.

The latest novelty, that is complete in everything which has before been lacking in that particular class, may be a valuable thing, but you cannot afford to pay a dozen prices for it. It will pay you better to continue to struggle along with the old sorts until the novelty comes down off its high horse. These "rare and valuable" novelties only occasionally turn out what they are represented to be.

The rabbits and the cow are said to be the nurseryman's best friends. They are forever at work destroying the trees of his customers, and creating fresh demands upon his order book. The Eu-

reka Fruit Tree Preparation will put a stop to the ravages of the rabbits, but the cow will go on in her destructiveness because her owner wills that that sort of browsing is none too good for the gentle creature.

An Excellent Article.

It is a very superior quality of grit for which the Wisconsin Quartz Co., Wausau, Wis., is soliciting the orders of poultry keepers. The company will be pleased to send a sample to any one requesting it. Send for a sample, and thus know what you are going to get before placing your order.

A Term in College for \$32.00.

Including room, table board and tuition. Choice of either Preparatory, Teachers, Scientific or Classic course. Six mos. Business or Shorthand course, with room, tuition and table board only \$85.00. An old, chartered, growing college, with large, first-class faculty and hundreds of successful graduates. Send for paper and circular giving full information.

T. H. JONES A. M. Pres.,
Jennings Seminary and Aurora Normal and Business College, Aurora, Illinois.

BUFF P. ROCKS.

G. W. Hamm strain. Eggs \$1.50 per per sitting. A few cockerels for sale.

A. L. BELEW, Aurelia, Iowa.

Eureka Fruit Tree Preparation.

— SAVES YOUR TREES FROM RABBITS. —

One Application Guaranteed to Make Trees Free from Injury by Rabbits for All Time to Come.

There is no Danger or Injury to Trees, but a Positive Benefit.

Its use promotes the growth of a clean, smooth, healthy bark. No new experiment but thoroughly tested for thirty years, and has done all that is claimed for it. Has been used with great success as a preventive from borers. The cost is but two cents per tree for trees that have not been planted more than one year. Price per pint can (ample for 50 trees) \$1, prepaid to any address. Quart cans (ample for 100 trees) \$2, prepaid. Complete directions with each can. If the preparation is applied according to directions and fails to protect the trees from rabbits upon satisfactory proof money will be refunded. All orders will receive prompt attention. Wholesale prices to dealers and agents. Pat. applied for.

F. R. MARTS, Farmington, Iowa.

WORTH A THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ANY FARM



An Evergreen Grove of 100 selected trees, 2 to 5 feet high, only \$10, delivered at your railroad station. All this stock is re-transplanted and well branched. Packed in wet moss and boxed so as to reach any point in United States safely. Your choice from millions of trees—largest Evergreen nursery in the country. Carry also a general line of all varieties of Fruit Trees, Small Fruit Plants, Forest Trees, Ornamentals, Roses, Shrubs, etc. Write at once for free catalogue and price list. LIBERAL terms for getting up clubs, or to reliable salesmen with or without experience. Send \$1 for sample order of 20 best Evergreens 1 ft. high or 100 6 to 8 in., by mail Prepaid. Reference—any Bank or Commercial Agency.

Sioux City's BIG 4 Poultry Club SHOW

Will be held January 24 to 30, 1898.
F. H. Shellabarger, Judge.

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And a warm welcome to poultrymen.
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ACKLEY'S Light Brahmas Great : Sale. 800 CHICKS

Raised this season all hatched and reared by hens with free grass range and all bred from my best matings. They are healthy, strong chicks and very promising. Eight-hundred young birds **bred in line** to select from. They will be in fine condition for the fall and winter shows and for breeding next season. A few good hens also for sale cheap, quality considered. I must sell a large share of these birds quickly, and at a sacrifice, if necessary, to make room for the remainder. Let me know your wants. I will give you bottom prices.

R. O. ACKLEY, Sioux City, Iowa.

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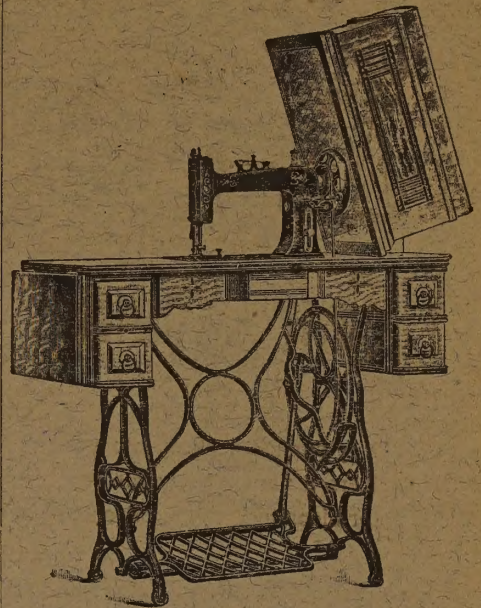
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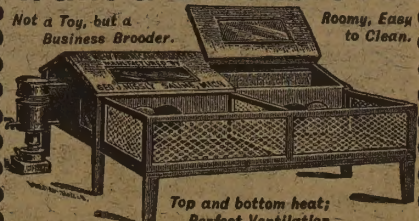
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Carry summer's cheer into your home in winter. We have arranged to send our subscribers a fine window-garden for the winter, consisting of fine, vigorous plants ready for blooming. The collection contains

Three Fine Begonias,  
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all carefully packed by one of the best florists in the country and delivered to you post-paid. With this Floral Collection we give a year's subscription to *Womankind*, the monthly home magazine. *Womankind* is an attractive, helpful home paper, appealing especially to busy women. It is bright and cheery and helpful, full of clean stories, clever poems and practical suggestions. We know you will like it.

**Our Special Offer:**

Womankind one year,  
Our Window-Garden Premium,  
consisting of the eight plants delivered to you, and

**THE MESSENGER, all for 70 Cents.**

### Silver Spangled Hamburgs and Pekin Ducks.

I have some very fine stock for sale at prices which you will admit are reasonable.

E. D. FTAUTSCHY, Monticello, Wis.

### PLUM GROVE POULTRY YARDS

TEA, SOUTH DAKOTA.

Rose Comb Black Leghorns,  
Rose Comb Brown Leghorns.

Choice birds for sale from my breeding pens this season.

WM. SOULE, Prop.

### CHOICE Barred Ply. Rocks.

If you want eggs from good birds scoring from 90 to 92 points, write Mrs. Silas Cobbs, Marathon, Iowa. Box 303.

### POULTRY BOOK FREE!

Containing 140 pages of practical information on poultry raising, with 1 years subscription to the *WESTERN POULTRY REVIEW*, a 16 to 24 page paper devoted to all branches of poultry industry, only 25 cents, 4 months trial 10c. Sample free. Cheapest and best advertising medium. Send 25 cts (silver) and get book and paper one year.

Western Poultry Review, Shannon City, Ia.

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